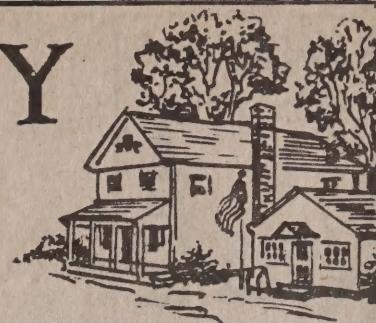


# MONTEREY

## NEWS

DECEMBER 1984



### MORATORIUM APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY; PLANNING BOARD SCHEDULES MEETINGS

On November 5, at 6 p.m., a special town meeting was held to enable Montereyans to vote on a one-year moratorium on the construction of condominiums and other multi-family dwellings. After an uncharacteristic absence of debate, the moratorium was approved unanimously.

The vote followed a hearing held on November 2 by the Monterey Planning Board regarding a proposal for the construction of a condominium project on Lake Garfield at the site of the former Camp Shalom. The proposal was turned down by the Board of Appeals, and many residents expressed the opinion that stronger and more specific guidelines were needed with regard to multiple dwellings in the town. The moratorium, which will expire November 5, 1985, is designed to give the Planning Board and other local groups sufficient time to consider permanent amendments to the zoning by-laws that will reflect more clearly the will of the townspeople. The moratorium does not affect single-family homeowners who wish to add an apartment to their houses.

In addition to its regular monthly meetings, the Planning Board is conducting a series of meetings to consider all aspects of Monterey's zoning laws. The first such meeting was held on Tuesday, November 27, and was attended by a number of residents in addition to the members of the Planning Board. According to Board Chairman William Brockman, contributions made by those in attendance were very helpful. The next meeting will be held sometime in January, and all residents of Monterey are invited. Anyone wishing further information about the upcoming meeting may obtain it by calling the town offices.

### MONTEREY SHUNS REAGAN-BUSH BANDWAGON

In marked contrast to the rest of the nation, Monterey voters gave Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro a clear majority over the Reagan-Bush ticket. With an impressive 81.7% turnout, Montereyans voted 225 to 184 in favor of the unsuccessful Democratic ticket. All other towns in the South Berkshire area preferred Reagan-Bush by substantial majorities.

In the race for U. S. Senate, differing again from most of its neighbors, Monterey favored Democratic victor John Kerry over Republican Ray Shamie. The contest was for the seat vacated by Senator Paul Tsongas (D).

In other contests, Monterey joined with other South Berkshire towns in giving substantial margins to incumbent Silvio Conte (R) over Mary Wentworth (D) for U. S. House of Representatives and to incumbent State Senator Peter Webber (R) over challenger Peter Menard (D). State Representative Christopher Hodgkins (D) scored an easy victory over write-in candidate Thomas Toole (R).

### CHURCH ADOPTS FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS

Working together with the Children's Protective Society of Berkshire County, members of the United Church of Christ are sponsoring a family of five, hoping to make their Christmas a happier one. The family includes a mother, three teenage girls and a baby.

On November 18, about sixty cans of food were collected in a food drive, and four pairs of jeans were also contributed. Still needed are blouses, t-shirts and sweaters to go with the jeans. Sizes are: Mother—32" waist; girl—adult size 12; girl—adult size 14; girl—adult size 7. T-shirt sizes are three medium and one small. Clothes need not be new but must be in excellent condition. Clothing for the baby has already been provided. Money is also needed.

Anyone wishing to make a further contribution should contact Mary Ward, Main Road. Donations of food, clothing, cash or checks made out to the United Church of Christ will be greatly appreciated.

### NEW LIGHTS FOR ROUTE 23

The Monterey Roads and Machinery Committee approved, on October 9, 1984, the installation of two 8000-Lumen street-lights on existing poles at the intersection of Routes 23 and 57.

### TOWN GARAGE CELEBRATION

**To: All Residents of Monterey and Neighbors of South Berkshire County**

Greetings:

We would like to invite you to celebrate with us the "Grand Opening" of our new, recently completed Town Garage and to sit in the cabin of our newly acquired Oshkosh truck!

Date: Sunday, December 16, 1984

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

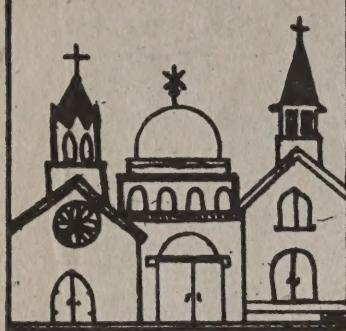
Place: New Town Shed, located at the junction of Gould Road and Curtis Road; follow the sign to Gould Farm, south off Route 23.

Dress informal. Refreshments served.

Please join us!

— Monterey Board of Selectmen

## OUR CHURCHES



### CATHOLIC CHURCHES

#### Masses Schedule

Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Immaculate Conception, Mill River

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### Worship and Regular Meetings

Church school, Sunday at 10:30 during morning worship. Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with childcare at same time in the Social Room. Choir rehearsal Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m. Meditation and prayer, 7:30 a.m. in the Social Room. All are invited. Prayer Group, Thursdays, 7:45 p.m. at the home of Lucy Smith.

### CHRISTMAS-RELATED EVENTS

#### Christmas Carolling—Friday, December 21, 6:30 p.m.

The ancient tradition of sharing the Christmas spirit calls people of all ages to gather to bring the songs of Christmas to the aged and shut-in persons of the community. We will meet at the church at 6:30 p.m. and proceed to the various homes. Hot chocolate and cookies will climax the evening.

#### Christmas Sunday Morning Worship—

December 23, 10:30 a.m.

The theme of the worship is, "Jesus Christ Will Reign Forever." The celebration of Christ's birth will dominate the worship in word and song. As in all the worship of the Monterey Church, the whole community is cordially invited to participate.

#### Lessons and Carols—Sunday, December 23, 7:30 p.m.

The great scriptures of Christmas blended together with the carols and other great music of Christmas to celebrate Christ's nativity. There will be a relighting of the Advent Candles along with a ceremony in which each person will have a vigil candle lighted at the conclusion of the service. Everyone in the community is invited to this special event.

### dirge of dire abundance

*Western Culture makes me sick.*

*It gives me heart attacks, hemorrhoids,*

*Cancer, flab, fads and plastic*

*Toys. It gives me acid rain, toxic waste,*

*Cocaine, newsnorts, and governmental ploys.*

*But worst of all, it gives me Homo Sapien Phobia:*

*FEAR OF MY OWN KIND... the worst Noise; this destroys!!!*

*All the wars and trespassings on this Globe,*

*Creeps into my heart and belly and bowels.*

*Aching with the sins of the World,*

*I want to throw in all my towels.*

*Western Culture makes me sick, I am only free*

*To pay the bills of all the ills that spin the wheels*

*That cause these nightmare-times to tick.*

*Then how to break the binds these Vicious Circles*

*Wrap around me night and day? I wonder deep*

*To fathom clear to step once more in tune*

*With Sol and Lunar play.*

*This great task, my central Call, my firm*

*Employment and my myth; Vocation.*

*In the fiendish grasp of raw despair, the Angel:*

**BEAUTY**

*Expounds in Light, glorifies my sight and offers Yes,*

*The thread to follow through the gloomiest night*

*Or day of haunted dread.*

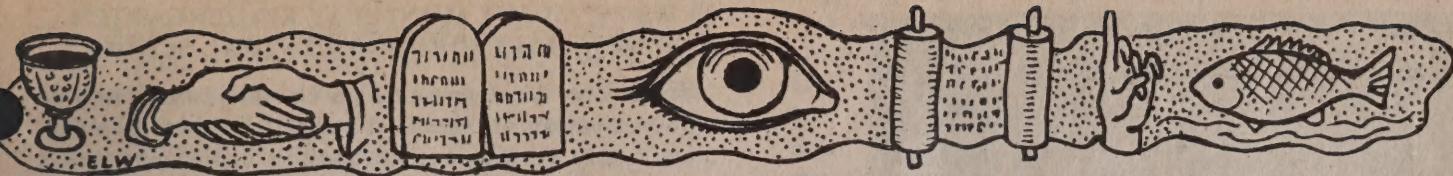
**BEAUTY, intoxicating BEAUTY**

*Kills my woe and never sends a bill.*

— Steve Maye



*The library Christmas tree, ready for lights*



## LIFE TRANSFORMATIONS

Whatever direction one looks life is going through changes. It's a pity we don't have a better eye for this. If we did, it would make living a lot easier. We see situations that are unpleasant or painful. We don't like them. Period. Do we really think we have even a faint grasp on life or what it is about?

Every few weeks I take our garbage pail out to the compost pile. What I take out is a pailful of stinking, rotten vegetable refuse. It is so filthy that it is a horrendous offense to all my senses. Is it not something to wonder about that material so thoroughly disagreeable as garbage, within a year's time, turns into sweet, rich soil? How could it be that anything so offensive as garbage can go through such radical changes that it becomes transformed into sweet-smelling, nourishing soil? If I had not seen it happen again and again, I would refuse to believe it had undergone this amazing transformation.

There is a chemistry, an alchemy, going on that never fails to fascinate me. It flows through all life. My compost pile is only one of the places to observe it.

I spend much of my time listening to people question the things that are happening in their lives. They are hurt, shocked, amazed at the misery, pain, suffering they are encountering. More than one person has strong feelings that s/he is in touch with stuff that can be called only "garbage." They describe experiences whose only quality seems to be to spoil and degrade life. Surely, they conclude, something is terribly awry in the scheme of things.

I am not going to try convincing anyone that life's garbage is beautiful. It isn't. It always feels bad. Therefore I have no interest in getting anyone to write an anthem praising garbage—or in praise of the hurt, pain, suffering and humiliation that people have come to know through the processes of life.

Let's take marriage as one of the major arenas of life. Marriage has long been recognized as one of life's great blessings. Is it not surprising how steadily most people still seek to find their place in marriage, in spite of a rather bad press in recent years? What has the bad press been about? No secret has been kept of the burdens, pains, struggles that marriage may lead one into. Many a person in the throes of the most excruciating pain wonders what s/he could have been thinking about when they married. We now know that a marriage is an exception, rather than the rule, if it has not lead its partners through some of the most difficult passageways they have ever encountered. Yet, what about those who have the courage to see it through? Some of the most amazing life transformations have taken place within the cauldron called marriage. Some of the most heartening movements of personal growth have emerged out of marriages that were going through the throes of disaster. Recently I was talking to a young women whose marriage had passed through some very rough waters. At the present time things were smoother. She questioned, "Why are we motivated by pain? Why does

the motivation so often fade when the pain fades?" A good question, indeed. She recognized that some of their greatest personal and marriage advances had come as a result of the pain they had encountered. Now she was wondering whether the willingness to grow could come only from pain.

The allegorical tale, *Pilgrim's Progress*, told by John Bunyan, tells of the journey to the celestial city. What a large part of that journey was taken up by perilous, discouraging or boring encounters. What was Bunyan trying to say? Was it not a statement that life transformations come often at the price of difficult encounters which seem to point in all directions except the desired goal. I would be reluctant to try making a case for finding joy only through suffering. Yet the hard implacable fact remains that much of our human development does come at the high cost of passing through places and times of pain, trial and challenge. How much of life's unfolding comes at the hand of life, as a hard taskmaster, seemingly developing and testing our mettle.

Listen to the music, hear the stories, ponder the epic tales that come to us from the many strands of our humanity, and from every corner of the earth. Hear the echoes again and again attesting to how depth and greatness comes to people. We find it everywhere the same. Through brokenness, tragedy, burden, pain and suffering learning has taken place and people have found their way. Let us be clear, an awfully lot of suffering is wasted, issuing in no great benefit to those who suffer. It is also true that suffering is not the only route to the unfolding of greatness. But still, in summing up, let us not miss the fact that our life processes seem to deliver a lot of garbage at most of our door steps. Why not decide early, rather than late, to turn it into sweet, beautiful, nourishing soil!

— Virgil V. Brallier, Minister  
Monterey United Church of Christ

## AUTUMN

*With a promise of spring we come.  
If the days are hard and the years,  
Little is learned on a sea becalmed.  
And it is only for a little time, then  
Down like a leaf from an autumn tree.*

— Dave Roberts

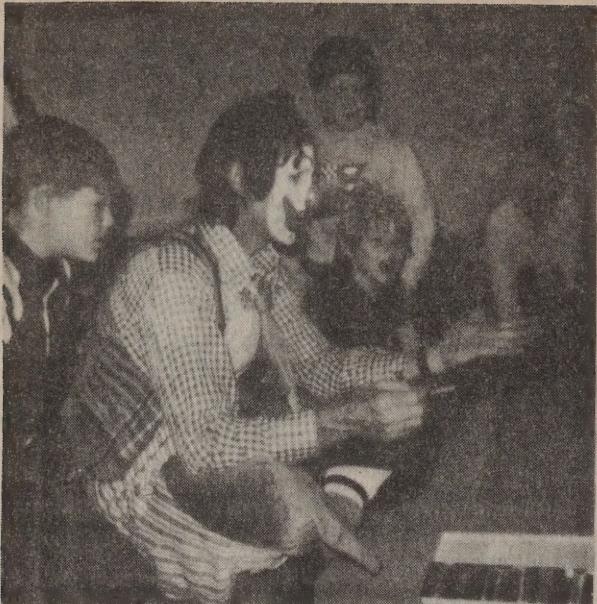


Photo by Maureen Bradley

### *Miso the Clown entertains second graders*

## **YOUTH NEWS**

### **Pack #51 Boy Scouts**

The boys wrote thank-you notes to Flying Cloud for the nature walk and to Linda Brazie for her help on the walk as part of a writing achievement. Conrad Ohman related to the boys his experience as a Scout. He shared his Boy Scout merit badges and camp patches. As part of a law enforcement achievement they did their fingerprints and footprints. They also had a very interesting and informative tour of the Great Barrington Police Station and Fire Station. Thank you to Officer Beckwith!

### **Brownie Troop #266**

The Brownies have been very busy this month working on a needlepoint wreath with ornaments to be given to a nursing home in Great Barrington. The girls are doing a terrific job. Congratulations, girls!

### **Junior Girl Scouts Troop #66**

The leaders, Pam Gillette and Linda Whitbeck, would like to thank all those who helped with the very successful Halloween party. They hope that everyone enjoyed themselves. On November 6 the girls spent their meeting at the polls. They went to observe the voting process and to learn how ballots are cast. The girls are now making popsicle stick planters. Soon it will be time to plan their annual Christmas Workshop.

### **Youth Group**

Because of Jim Wilson's recent surgery, the Youth Group has not begun yet this year. The young people of this group send their best wishes for a speedy recovery to Jim. Get well soon!

### **Special News**

Michelle Grotz, sophomore class president at Mount Everett, has been selected as the school's representative to the Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation State Leadership Seminar to be held in Boston in the spring. The selection was based on her involvement in the high school band and athletics and her leadership positions in student government. Michelle has also been active with the Berkshire County Special Olympics, the school's annual blood drive and course work in safety and rescue operations. She is the daughter of Stefan and Stephanie Grotz of Route 23.

## **NEWS FROM THE MONTEREY KINDERGARTEN AND NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL**

On October 30, the preschoolers and their parents enjoyed a potluck supper in the school cafeteria, followed by a Halloween party. Parents were also given the opportunity to view the newly renovated classroom. November 6 was Election Day for the preschool. The voting categories included favorite color, favorite animal, favorite food, favorite toy, and favorite room in the school. In the Presidential category, the Reagan-Bush team was victorious by one vote.

In keeping with the season the children in the Monterey Kindergarten made skeletons with paper clips to help learn the parts of their bodies. For Halloween they painted faces and had a Care Bear (Melissa Carson) and a witch (Myra Raney) in class. The kindergartners completed a Fire Prevention Unit in Social Studies and were delighted with Linda Whitbeck's presentation of a fireman's equipment. Linda is a member of the Monterey Fire Company. The children have finished their long vowel booklets and had long vowel snacks such as grape jelly, raisins, ice cream, Cheerios and cheese as a part of the Language Arts curriculum. In addition, poetry time with Linda Whitbeck was very successful. Ellen Pearson and her daughter, Myra Raney, shared two Siberian hamsters with the class one day. In Math the pupils are learning about quantities and how to write numbers. In Science they have begun a study of winter and the other seasons.

On December 4 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a toy clean-up and ornament workshop at the New Marlborough School, sponsored by the Monterey-New Marlborough PTA. The public is invited. Refreshments will be baked by the New Marlborough fourth grade class. Toys, books and sporting goods for the sale may be dropped off at the school during regular hours or at the Ohmans on Blue Hill Road in Monterey. Thank you to those who have already donated. The Toy and Gift Sale will be held at the school on Monday and Tuesday, December 10 and 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The first grade classroom was decorated with witches, black cats and ghosts for Halloween. The children also made placemats for their class party. The students made their own "Fall Alphabet." In Language Arts they are adding new consonants rapidly and can read more and more words every day. They are learning more about trees in Science, continuing a study begun in early October, when the broadleaf trees began to change color. Diane Storti, mother of Tricia, volunteers in the class every Friday afternoon, to lend a hand to Mrs. Heyman on special projects.

Jean Curtis, Cafeteria Manager at New Marlborough Central School, retired as a delegate from the Massachusetts School Food Service Association after eight years. She was honored recently, along with other delegates, at a luncheon at the Driftwood Restaurant in Shrewsbury. Mrs. Curtis was presented with a pin, and all of us at NMC extend to her our congratulations for a job well done.

The second grade sent signed thank-you cards to all the "entertainers" who have visited our school in the last few weeks: "Miso the Clown," the choral group from Mt. Everett under the direction of Nancy Loder, and Gail Cerruto's theater arts class, also from Mt. Everett. Then each child chose one entertainment to write about. The stories and pictures were sent to the entertainers. In Science they are finishing up

*continued from page 4*

their unit on seed dispersal that began with an autumn walk and is ending with environmental materials from *National Geographic*. Cuisenaire rods are being used as a visual, manipulative and concrete way to teach the addition number facts from 1 to 20. The class has also finished a unit on the set theory. They are learning about odd and even numbers. The students were given their teacher-made individual dictionaries. In the dictionaries each child collects the words he/she needs in his/her creative writing work.

Partners in Reading awards for the first marking period were given to the following students: Thomas Brazie, Andrew Brazie, Jenee Eichstedt, Tucker Gillooly, Paul Makuc, Michael Mallory, Jon Pratt, Elizabeth Stevens, Ryan Fol, Lani Gillooly, Melissa Hanson, Lisa Hopkins, Tricia Storti, Jessica VanDeuse, Jason Smith, Bruce Snow Jr., Jennifer Stevens and Colin Storti.

The third grade has finished *Blue Dilly Dilly* and has begun *Curbstone Dragons*. They are regrouping 10s and 100s both in addition and subtraction. With Mrs. MacKenzie they colored turkeys using a math key, and Donna Drew, elementary art teacher, taught them about warm and cool colors. On the third grade bulletin board they have created a "warm" Thanksgiving scene and "cool" outerspace with colored cut-out pictures.

The New Marlborough Arts Lottery Council has awarded a grant of two hundred dollars to be spent at the New Marlborough School on an Arts Enrichment Program for the school children. This is part of a district-wide effort to extend and enrich the curriculum through the arts: music, drama, dance, creative writing and visual arts. Lucinda Schmulsky of New Marlborough will be the District Coordinator for Arts Enrichment Activity this school year. To get this program underway, Steve Maye, a resident of Monterey, came to NMC on October 26 as "Miso the Clown" and shared with all of the

children his special talents. Mr. Maye, who has a Master's of Fine Arts degree, has had a lifelong career as an artist. It is only recently that he has discovered the joys of clowning. He finds clowning to be a special facet of creative activity—a 360° art form—a complete involvement with the environment. A true circus spirit prevailed here as "Miso" held a workshop for each grade, showing the different classes the elements of clowning. Lucinda Schmulsky was his able assistant. We are most grateful to the New Marlborough Arts Lottery Council, to Lucinda, and, most especially, to Steve Maye for a wonderful day.

For Halloween there was a pumpkin decorating contest in the fourth grade. The five categories developed by the children were: a football player, a drunk driver with a message about drinking and driving, a stagecoach pumpkin with horses and drivers, a clown pumpkin, Clancy the Clown, and a pumpkin called "The Devil King." Each child was awarded a certificate for participating in this activity. The fourth grade took a field trip to Lenox in early November. They visited the Suchele Bakery, where each child had an opportunity to make a croissant, and they all got to eat the finished products! From there they traveled to Eastover to see and feed the bison (American buffalo). They picnicked at Tanglewood, played on the grounds and hiked through Gould Meadows, the land bordering the Stockbridge Bowl. A great day was had by all! In Social Studies they are beginning the unit on Africa. Donna Burkhart, Chris's mother, came to the class with a slide presentation, clothing and artifacts to introduce the children to this continent. The Burkharts, now living and working at Gould Farm, lived for three years in Zaire. Donna also brought the family parrot who delighted the class with his antics. The NMC fourth graders are the district "Soccer Champs" for the 1984-85 season. They defeated Sheffield Center's fourth grade, 2-1, in a hard-fought game on November 1. Each child was given a "purple ribbon" as an award.

*continued next page →*



*Thanksgiving Indians in the Monterey Kindergarten. Kneeling: Shaylan Barkhart, Emily Kern, Myra Raney, Yvonne Eichstedt, Morgan Clawson, Sarah Wilson and David Jones.*

*Standing: Jim Paul Hankey, Michael Eichstedt, Luke Olson, Tom Brazie, James Phillips, Shelinda Hoffman, Tanya Cook, Matt Reynolds, Gerry Murray, Joshua Vogel, Kristin Mallory.*

Parent volunteers Sherry Mallory and Joy Doane have been coming in one day a week to work with individual students and small groups. They are a tremendous help to the teachers, and the children really enjoy that extra attention.

Halloween parties were held at the school on October 30 in all of the classrooms. Beforehand, the children, all dressed in their costumes, paraded through the school and out onto the playground. The weather cooperated and helped to make the day more pleasant. Room mothers were on hand to help teachers with everything, and they did a wonderful job. Thanks to all!

The first marking period ended on November 9. Teachers have been very busy with parent conference and distributing report cards. By the Thanksgiving vacation most of the conferences were done.

On November 8 NMC students were treated to an afternoon of music and drama by Mt. Everett pupils. Nancy Loder's fifth and sixth grade choral group entertained them with musical selections and Gail Cerruto's fifth grade theatre arts class put on the play, *A Magic Hood*, based on a Japanese folk tale. Keila Sheldon of South Egremont was the accompanist for the chorus and Sally Kelley of Sheffield lent a hand to the young thespians. It was a marvelous experience for all.



Martha Eichstedt assists a visitor to the Monterey Kindergarten onto the school bus on Halloween

## FOOD FOR FRIENDS

On November 12 the third dinner took place for some of our elderly and live-alone people. Roast pork, potatoes, rolls, broccoli, sliced tomatoes, Indian pudding with ice cream, tea and coffee was enjoyed by eighteen people including those who helped. The monthly meals are served at noon in the Social Room of the church by various people who wish to take a turn at helping.

We are compiling a list of those interested in participating in any way—with food, money or being there to help the day of the dinner. Call either Mary Ward, 528-9243, or Milly Walsh, 528-4257, or mail to P. O. Box 306, Monterey.

## MONTEREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Christmas has come early to the Monterey Historical Society. Cynthia Tryon Hoogs has given a compilation of cemetery inscriptions from all five burial grounds and a handwritten record of all burials in Corashire from 1826 until 1920.

The original sign from Tryon's Hotel now belongs to the Society as a gift from Charles Race.

A generous check from the alumni of Jason Camps was received after their summer reunion. The money will be used for restoration of the hotel sign.

And from Camilla Harmon Smith, now of Dalton, a yoke used to assist in carrying buckets of water from the spring to the house.

Merry Christmas and wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year to all.

— Sally Fijux

## QUILT WINNER

The Streak O' Lightning quilt was won by Mary Ann New of Great Barrington. The winning ticket was sold by Pat Amstead. The Friends of the Park have used the funds raised to purchase new swings, a see-saw, and a spinning gate. The new equipment should be installed in Greene Park by late next spring.

Christmas trees & Wreaths  
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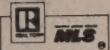
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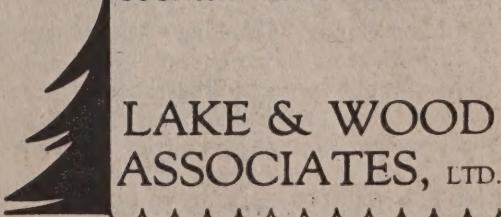
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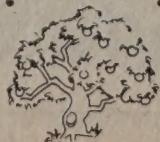
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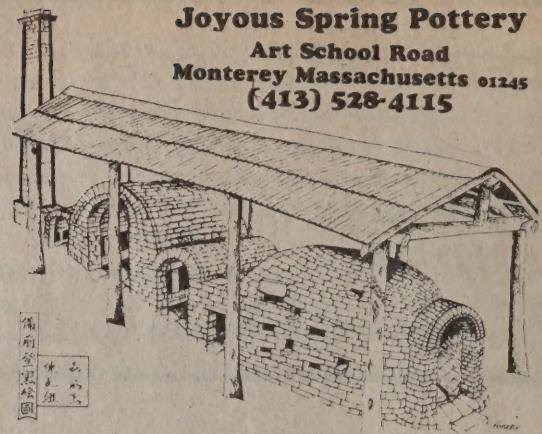
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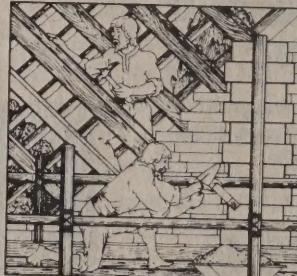


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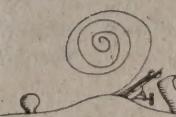
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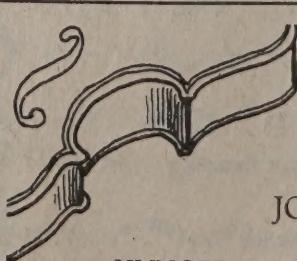
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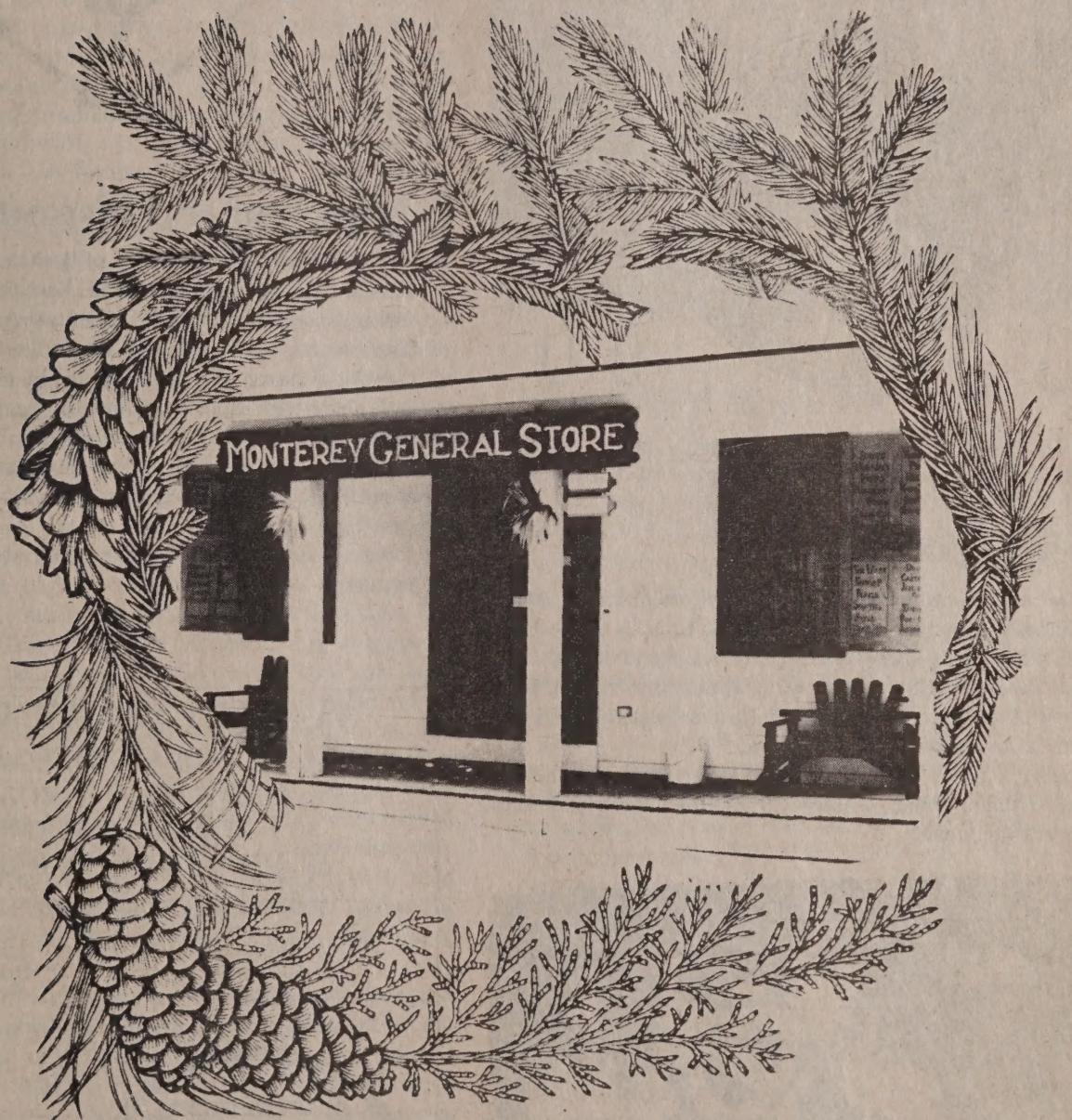
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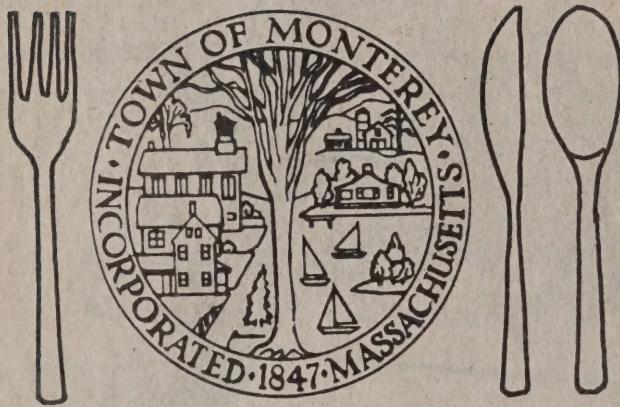
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# A MONTEREY COOKBOOK



## STOCKING STUFFERS

There are still copies of *A Monterey Cookbook* for sale at the General Store and at Milly Walsh's. Friends of the Park suggest they make great stocking stuffers or something extra to tuck into a Christmas card, while at the same time giving a gift to all the children of Monterey (proceeds go toward playground equipment for Greene Park).

Copies may be ordered by mail from Leslie Scutellaro, Mount Hunger Road, Monterey 01245 for \$2.00 plus \$.50 to cover mailing costs.



## CENTRAL AMERICAN CHRISTMAS

The Peace Action Network of Berkshire County, under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee, is sponsoring a program entitled "A Central American Christmas." The purpose of the program is to collect school supplies and toys for children in refugee camps in Honduras.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the drive may bring basic school supplies, such as pencils, pens, paper, crayons, notebooks, etc. (no books) to The New Spirit bookstore, Main Road, or to the Congregational Church, Main Street, Great Barrington.

Also needed are sturdy toys, preferably those not needing batteries.

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## LOCAL LORE

### INDIAN NOTES

#### Native Foods (continued)

##### Wild Berries

The Mahican Indians of Western Massachusetts shared with the other Algonquin tribes of the Northeast, and their Iroquois neighbors, a centuries-old knowledge of the food resources of their environment. These included well over 200 recipes of wild fruits and berries, the latter including the familiar shadberries, cranberries, blueberries, ground cherries, checkerberries (wintergreen), and strawberries. These last were so important to Indians of the Northeast that their harvest was celebrated widely in "First Fruits," ceremonies in which the Creator was thanked with music, dance, prayer, and ritual offerings. The festival signaled the return of the bountiful time of year when other berries and fresh food could be expected soon to vary the dried and smoked diet of the long winter.

Other useful berries are less well known to us who now occupy the Mahican lands. Raw barberries were prized for their refreshing astringency. The berries were also dried to be stewed later for a citrus-tasting drink or for flavoring other foods. The same was done with fresh or dried sumac berries. The Indians also chewed the bright yellow roots of the barberry and made a tea from the leaves for relief from rheumatism.

Most of us do not consider juniper berries to be edible, but they can be eaten fresh or picked all winter, after they have dried on the bush, and can then be moistened in the mouth until they yield a raisin-like flavor. The Indians added this spicy taste to fish, especially salmon, and they also enjoyed it with venison and bear meat. False Solomon's Seal bears small clusters of fragrant red berries in the autumn. The Indians ate these raw and added them to other foods as seasoning, but they used them sparingly since they are somewhat cathartic. Other berries used by the Indians were nannyberries, bearberries, parridgeberries, and even the bittersweet berries of nightshade. The toxic alkaloid solanine in the latter becomes less dangerous as the fruit ripens and is completely dissipated by the heat of cooking. The Woodlands tribes hulled the berries when they were ripe and used them for seasoning in their meat stews.

Our phrase, "forced to live on roots and berries," suggests deprivation or downright starvation, but the Mahicans considered the woods to be their storehouse of staples, refreshment and delight. Wild foods, however, take much time in the gathering and processing, and time was something the Indians always seemed to have more of than their European neighbors.

— David McAllester

#### ANYBODY LOSE A COLLIE?

Big beautiful neutered male collie found in Monterey Center. Very affectionate and good at fetching rubber dog toys. If his owner doesn't show up soon, he's up for grabs. Call 528-1988.



Brookbend Inn

#### THE SHOOT-UP THAT NEVER WAS

*Mr. Campbell called us a while ago to say that he grew up in Monterey. He was born in the house now belonging to Henry Makuc. For a time his father owned Brookbend Inn. He is working on a series of tales for children, many of them based on boyhood experiences in Monterey. He sent us this one and will be sending more.*

Although I left Monterey before my ninth birthday when my dad sold what is now Brook Bend, it always was a pleasure to return for a visit, and about two and one-half years later a friend and myself concocted a scheme that would have attracted a certain amount of attention at the time.

My friend had a pony of his own, and my father would sometimes rent one for me, so one week in late summer I secured permission for us to camp out on some land on the New Marlboro Road. No problem so far.

Cowboyism was not nearly the vogue then that it was to become, even though William S. Hart, Tom Mix, and the three Farmums were big names on the silent screen.

Our idea was to ride down from Pittsfield in our cowboy regalia so as to arrive at the top of the hill where the fire station is now just about lamplighting time. I believe there were just two street lamps then, one by the Tyringham Road and one near the New Marlborough Road.

Starting there at the top we would gallop through the village shouting our best cowboy yells and "shooting up the town" with our repeating cap pistols.

But—it never happened. Why?

Because my parents overheard me trying to persuade a Monterey kid of some riding ability to make it three "Yippee-Ki-Yea riders," so the entire trip was canceled!

In recent years I have casually mentioned this to a few people who lived in Monterey at the time, and they all agreed that it would likely have attracted some attention!

— Dwight P. Campbell

## LOCAL LORE (cont'd)

### THE LEGENDARY KINGFISHER

A long time ago in Greece there was a king named Aeolus who was in charge of all the winds, from gentle breezes to stormy gales. He had, of course, a lovely daughter, the princess Halcyone, who married a handsome young prince named Ceyx, ruler of Thessaly.

One day Ceyx decided to go on an ocean voyage to consult an oracle concerning certain premonitions he had. Halcyone had premonitions of her own, perhaps due to her paternal meteorological connections, and she begged Ceyx not to go just then; she was afraid he would die at sea.

Ceyx told Halcyone not to be silly, and just as you can imagine, his ship was wrecked by a fierce storm. When she got the news, Halcyone walked along the shore weeping and angry. Suddenly she saw Ceyx's body in the waves, and her grief overcame her. She decided to throw herself into the sea to drown, but just as she did so she was magically transformed into a small blue-green bird with little orange feet. She flew to the body of her husband and landed on his chest. Immediately he too became a lovely jewel-like bird, and the two flew off to sea together, where they still live, catching tiny fish from the waves and nesting on a raft of floating twigs.

Every winter when the little birds incubate their eggs on the floating nest, the seas are suddenly calmed. The nest sits safe and absolutely still until the young birds can fly. Perhaps in recompense for all the hardship suffered in the storm sea winds, King Aeolus gives us "halcyon days" at the time of the winter solstice, and it is then that the kingfishers are believed to nest at sea.

Nowadays our belted kingfisher (*Megacyrle alcyon*, named for the princess) still makes his living on the water but does not rely upon the shifting moods of Aeolus for safe nesting. Instead he and his mate excavate a splendid burrow in a sand or gravel bank. Using their stout bills as pickaxes, they work together to loosen rocks and dirt, which they push out to the mouth of the burrow with their feet. Our kingfishers do not have the bright orange feet of the European variety, but their feet are unusual in that they are tiny and not well-suited for walking. There are three toes forward and one back, but two of the forward toes are partly fused together, giving the bird a sort of "palm," which is good for pushing dirt.

The burrow is about four inches across and may be as long as 15 feet into the bank. The birds may spend two to ten days picking and shoveling to make this nest, depending upon how tough the digging is. The whole tunnel slants up slightly, for good drainage, and at the end there is a chamber with a nest of twigs and grass. Here the glossy white eggs are laid, usually five to eight in a clutch, and the female does most of the incubation while the male guards the territory and goes off fishing.

The fishing grounds may be as much as a mile away from the nesting area. One kingfisher patrols a section of stream or shoreline, perching on dead trees or branches and giving his harsh rattling cry. He is an odd-looking bird, short and

stubby with a two-pointed crest that always looks tousled. In size he is somewhere between a robin and a pigeon, and his color is a dull blue and blue-grey above, with white below. With his crest he looks a little like the sloppy cousin of the dapper blue jay. The male has a band of blue-grey across his white breast, and the female is a little fancier, with a cinnamon-brown band below this.

Edward Howe Forbush notes that although the kingfisher's wings are "ample," his tail is "rather short," then quotes William Finley from his *American Birds* (1913), describing the young kingfishers: "A young kingfisher seems to grow like a potato in a cellar, all the growth going to the end near the light. He sits looking out the door, and, of course, his face naturally all goes to nose. Everything is forfeited to furnish him with a big head, a spear-pointed bill, and a pair of strong wings to give this arrow-shaped bird a good start when he dives for fish."

When a kingfisher spots a fish, he may sometimes hover before making his dive. Then he folds his wings part-way and plummets head first into the water. If he is successful and the fish is very small, he may swallow it on the spot. If the fish is a little bigger and struggling, the bird will fly to a perch and smack his meal against a rock or branch until it holds still. Then he will often flip the fish into the air and catch it again so that it slides down his throat head first.

Most kingfishers catch minnows, dace, chubs and small perch and trout which are four inches long or less. The occasional larger catch causes some trouble as it can't be swallowed all at once and the tail hangs out of the bird's bill while the stomach works to digest the other end, like a fire consuming one end of a log which is a bit too long for the stove.

The kingfishers belong to the same order of birds as the cuckoo and the roadrunner. One trait they all share is that their babies hatch out completely naked. Then their feathers start to poke out, encased in stiff sheaths. At this stage they resemble awkward little avian hedgehogs, with thick bristles all over. Then feathers burst from the sheaths and fluff out in characteristic juvenile plumage. Roadrunners have a bushy crest and so do many of the larger kingfisher species. In the kingfisher suborder there are two groups, the true kingfishers, which live near water and fish for a living, and the wood kingfishers of Malaya and Australia, which include the famous kookaburra of the old gum tree, also called the laughing jackass.

Our belted kingfisher is best known for his fishing, his burrowing and his incredible "song," which sounds like someone practicing the snare drum on a tin can. He shrieks and rattles before and after meals, announcing his return to the burrow, and in challenge to interlopers on his stretch of fishing grounds. Greek mythology links this noisy bird with calm and peaceful days on the Mediterranean, but if you can hear the princess Halcyone behind that voice, you will realize that although she may be grateful for halcyon days in which to raise her family, she is still plenty upset about the fierce winds that caused the shipwreck in the first place and the stubborn men and rulers who won't listen to a warning and who only think to calm the water *after* the ship is lost.

THEREFORE ...

THIS DANCING THROUGH IRON DOORS,  
THIS SINGING OUR WAY THROUGH BLIND WALLS,  
THIS MOCKING OF OLD HIERARHIC DOOMS,  
LEVITATION ACROSS IMPASSIBLE WASTES.

THEREFORE ...

THESE HILARITIES, AGAINST ALL REASON,  
AND CHARITIES WELLING UP FOR NO CAUSE,  
RIGHTEOUSNESS APPEARS FROM NOWHERE LIKE DEW,  
THE EARTH OPENS AND JOY SPRINGS IN THE FURROWS  
AND THE ANGELS PROCLAIM IT FROM POLE TO POLE.

(A. N. WILDER)



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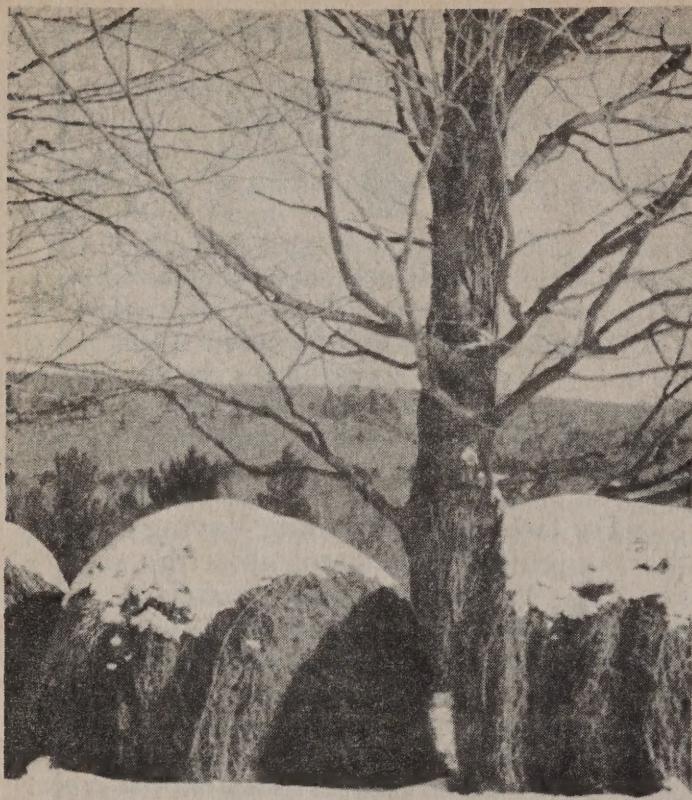
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Joe Lanoue's woodpile, 1984



*Round Bales*

#### MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange # 291 met November 7 for Pink and Green Sash Night, when Pomona officers with Cindy Olegny acting as Master filled the chairs. There were nine state officers present, who presented an enjoyable program.

Deputy Alicia Brazie presented first prize from the State Grange for her conservation exhibit to Florence Brown, two first prize plaques to Eleanor Kimberley and Ethel Warner for skits they wrote, second prize for her photo entries to Eleanor Kimberley, third prize for the Grange Week display and second prize for the posture contest to Eleanor Kimberley for the membership committee. Members and guests were present from fourteen subordinates.

The next meeting was December 5. Members brought in articles for cheer boxes.



*Winter, Monterey*



*wind swept bird  
at tip of ever  
green tree*

5.11.

#### SPRING MOULTING

*But when a breeze is felt  
Against the brow, be sure  
Its fingers will unroll  
Encumberments, the poor  
Entrappings of the soul.*

*For soon the spring will melt  
The snake-skin from the snake,  
The fur from off the fox,  
And cluttered earth will make  
Room suddenly for phlox.*

*The spirit wears a pelt  
Of too luxurious fur,  
The sad and sweated soul,  
O ladies, pity her!  
And talk in paradox,  
Diminish to be whole.  
For this, the snake, the fox,  
And all our days unroll.*

Margery Mansfield Janes

Margery Mansfield Janes, unofficial poet laureate of Monterey, died on November 25 at the Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington. She was 89, and is survived by her husband, Kelly Janes. Monterey knows her best for the poems written in her cabin in the woods here, some of which were published in 1961 in a small book called *Berkshire Settler*. Before World War II she was editor of *Poetry: A Magazine of Verse* for several years, and in 1937 published *Workers in Fire: A Book about Poetry* with illustrations by her first husband, Jay Van Everen, and examples drawn from her own poems.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR TO HERSELF

Dear Ed.,

On Sunday of this week, a day of welcome silence in the midst of deer season, I discovered that one of my Belgian draft horses had a stomach peppered with buckshot. So far she is doing okay; the skin of her belly is swollen with pockets of fluid, she has multiple oozing wounds, and she is limping a little. We have her on antibiotics, and she is still eating well. She is a horse full of determination, and I expect her to survive.

I notified Natural Resource Officer Tom Kasprzak, who arrived the next day with Officer Craig Scott to investigate the incident. It is their advice which I thought would be useful to property owners in Monterey who want to avoid having irresponsible hunters loose on their land.

"No Trespassing" signs should be posted at regular intervals around your boundaries. In addition to the admonition, "No Trespassing," the sign should include "no fishing, hunting or trapping," as well as the owner's name. Tom recommended metal signs because they don't shatter when they're shot. He advised that the signs be ten feet above the ground so they will be difficult to rip down. He says people have had good luck with signs affixed to boards and covered with chicken wire.

If your land is posted to Kasprzak and Scott's satisfaction and you issue a complaint about a trespasser, the courts these days are disposed to punish the trespasser even though he may claim not to have seen your signs. Both officers gave me their home phones and radio connections, which follow:

Tom Kasprzak—Home: 243-0043  
Radio: 442-0512 (Cruiser 73)  
Craig Scott—Home: 528-9005  
Radio: 528-0306 (Cruiser 74)

Call them with questions about posting land or with complaints about trespassers.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Pearson  
Chestnut Hill Road

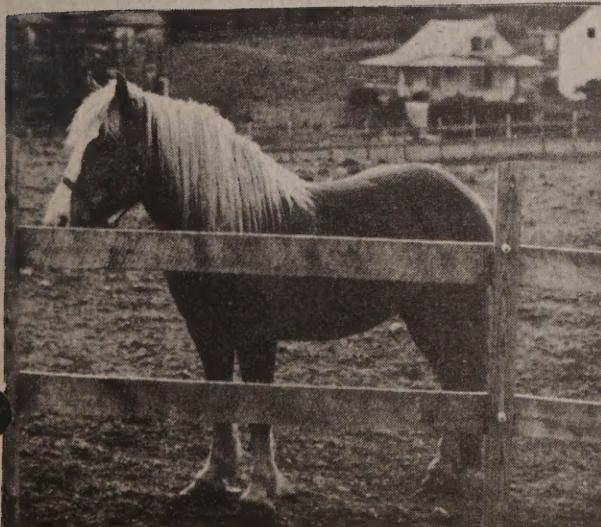


Photo by Ellen Pearson

*Hunter's-eye view of Sophie, standing in the pasture where she was shot.*

## CALENDAR

### Contra and Square Dance Schedule

*Saturday, December 8—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, MA. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults, \$3.50; children, \$1.00 to dance until intermission. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.*

*Saturday, December 22—No dance. Happy Holidays!*

### NOTICE TO ALL MONTEREY TAXPAYERS

Tax bills for the present fiscal year will be issued after January 1, 1985. If you wish to apply your tax payment to your 1984 tax deductions, please send the payment (an amount approximately the same as your last payment) directly to Monterey Treasurer Matt Williams, P. O. Box 398, Monterey, MA 01245, before January 1, 1985. Please round off your payment to the nearest whole dollar.

An early payment of tax bills would be helpful to Monterey.

— MONTEREY BOARD OF ASSESSORS  
— MONTEREY TREASURER

### WE NEED HELP!

Nancy Beach can't find time to do our accounting and advertising organization anymore. She says it takes about two hours a month. We could make a small reimbursement to anyone who will help us out. Please call Ellen Pearson, 528-1988.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, *Monterey News*:

The death of Margery Mansfield Janes of Monterey is more than a loss to her immediate family and friends. At the age of 89, she was a stalwart of the Peace Movement, just as is another Grand Lady of Monterey, Margaret White, who now resides in the Barrington Health Care Home on Maple Avenue in Great Barrington.

In 1982 Margery Janes allowed us to use a prize-winning sonnet that she had written when she was a young lady during World War I. The sonnet was presented as a backdrop to the Peace Table at the "I Love Monterey Day" celebration. I believe the *Monterey News* published a photo of it at the time. It went as follows:

*On foreign shores my first love  
doth lie  
'Tis not for him, but that he killed,  
I cry."*

— Bernard Kleban  
Monterey

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*Except where otherwise noted, photographs by Susan McAllester and drawings by Edith Wilson.*

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Suzanne S. MacLysir  
Main Rd. Box 202  
Monterey, MA 01245

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/COMMENTS

The *Monterey News* wishes to thank the following for their contributions and constructive criticism/comments:

E. Seiden, P. Brenner—The only point of complaint I have is that we get the paper we like always too late.

Stephen & Joyce Morse—We like the news, especially local news of the people living there. It keeps us in touch since we moved away.

N. Ron—We are now a part of Monterey and are eager to know everything about it.

Steve Carmichael and Dede Cummings—Eminently readable.

Peter Amidon—Thanks for your great publication.

Matt Tannenbaum and Sheila Schaunaman—Keep us informed!

Erik Christiana—I always enjoy reading the *Monterey News* and it always has good articles.

M/M Richard M. Rice—I think your return addressed envelopes are pretty shoddy.

M/M A. K. Wing III—Go! Go! Go!

Paul and Rose Zerra—More personals.

M/M Jean T. Nightingale "Tillie"—I enjoy learning the history of "my Hometown." It is hard to visualize so much history and activities that have gone on within the square miles of Monterey.

Lynn and Lenny Weisman—Thank you.

Gerald Bauman—It's a refreshing expression of human spirit and Monterey realities.

Ellie Gilligan—Thoroughly enjoy *Monterey News*.

### STAFF

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